

**What is Claimed:**

- 1                   **1.     A multi-user telephone system comprising:**
  - 2                   a first plurality of VOIP telephone extensions all having the same
  - 3                   telephone number and each having an extension number different from the extension
  - 4                   numbers of the other VOIP telephone extensions of said first plurality of VOIP
  - 5                   telephone extensions, each said VOIP telephone extension of said first plurality of
  - 6                   VOIP telephone extensions for:
    - 7                   (a)     developing a first outgoing VOIP signal for transmission via the
    - 8                             internet and comprising:
      - 9                             (1)     an audio component digitized from audio frequency
      - 10                             signals developed by said VOIP telephone extension of
      - 11                             said first plurality of VOIP telephone extensions, and
      - 12                             (2)     an address component corresponding to the address of
      - 13                             the intended recipient of the first outgoing VOIP signal,
      - 14                             and
    - 15                   (b)     converting to audio signals for broadcast by said VOIP
    - 16                             telephone extension of said first plurality of VOIP telephone
    - 17                             extensions a first incoming VOIP signal received from the
    - 18                             internet and having an address corresponding to the address of
    - 19                             said VOIP telephone extension of said first plurality of VOIP
    - 20                             telephone extension;
  - 21                   a first user network switch to which each said VOIP telephone
  - 22                   extension of said first plurality of VOIP telephone extensions is connected and
  - 23                   through which:
    - 24                   (a)     the first outgoing VOIP signal is conducted from said VOIP
    - 25                             telephone extension of said first plurality of VOIP telephone
    - 26                             extensions, and
    - 27                   (b)     the first incoming VOIP signal received from the internet is
    - 28                             conducted to said VOIP telephone extension of said first
    - 29                             plurality of VOIP telephone extensions;

30                   a second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions, in the same general  
31 location as said first plurality of VOIP telephone extensions, all having the same  
32 telephone number and each having an extension number different from the extension  
33 numbers of the other VOIP telephone extensions of said second plurality of VOIP  
34 telephone extensions, each said VOIP telephone extension of said second plurality of  
35 VOIP telephone extensions for:

36                   (a)     developing a second outgoing VOIP signal for transmission via  
37 the internet and comprising:

38                             (1)     an audio component digitized from audio frequency  
39 signals developed by said VOIP telephone extension of  
40 said second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions, and

41                             (2)     an address component corresponding to the address of  
42 the intended recipient of the second outgoing VOIP  
43 signal, and

44                   (b)     converting to audio signals for broadcast by said VOIP  
45 telephone extension of said second plurality of VOIP telephone  
46 extensions a second incoming VOIP signal received from the  
47 internet and having an address corresponding to the address of  
48 said VOIP telephone extension of said second plurality of VOIP  
49 telephone extension;

50                   a second user network switch to which each said VOIP telephone  
51 extension of said second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions is connected and  
52 through which:

53                             (a)     the second outgoing VOIP signal is conducted from said VOIP  
54 telephone extension of said second plurality of VOIP telephone  
55 extensions, and

56                             (b)     the second incoming VOIP signal received from the internet is  
57 conducted to said VOIP telephone extension of said second  
58 plurality of VOIP telephone extensions;

59                   a facility network switch to which said first user network switch and  
60 said second user network switch are connected and through which:

- 61 (a) the first outgoing VOIP signal is conducted from said first user  
62 network switch,
- 63 (b) the first incoming VOIP signal received from the internet is  
64 conducted to said first user network switch,
- 65 (c) the second outgoing VOIP signal is conducted from said second  
66 user network switch, and
- 67 (d) the second incoming VOIP signal received from the internet is  
68 conducted to said second user network switch;
- 69 an internet gateway connected to said facility network switch and  
70 adapted for connection to the internet and through which:
- 71 (a) the first outgoing VOIP signal is conducted to the internet,
- 72 (b) the first incoming VOIP signal received from the internet is  
73 conducted to said facility network switch,
- 74 (c) the second outgoing VOIP signal is conducted to the internet,  
75 and
- 76 (d) the second incoming VOIP signal received from the internet is  
77 conducted to said facility network switch; and
- 78 a server for:
- 79 (a) confirming the address of the intended recipient of the first  
80 outgoing VOIP signal and controlling said facility switching  
81 network to conduct said first VOIP signal to said internet  
82 gateway upon confirmation of the address of the intended  
83 recipient of the first outgoing VOIP signal,
- 84 (b) confirming the address of the intended recipient of the second  
85 outgoing VOIP signal and controlling said facility switching  
86 network to conduct said second VOIP signal to said internet  
87 gateway upon confirmation of the address of the intended  
88 recipient of the second outgoing VOIP signal,
- 89 (c) confirming the address of the first incoming VOIP signal  
90 received from the internet as being the address of said VOIP

91 telephone extension of said first plurality of VOIP telephone  
92 extensions and directing the first incoming VOIP signal to said  
93 VOIP telephone extension of said first plurality of VOIP  
94 telephone extensions, and

95 (d) confirming the address of the second incoming VOIP signal  
96 received from the internet as being the address of said VOIP  
97 telephone extension of said second plurality of VOIP telephone  
98 extensions and directing the second incoming VOIP signal to  
99 said VOIP telephone extension of said second plurality of VOIP  
100 telephone extensions.

1 2. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 1 wherein:

2 (a) the address component of the first outgoing VOIP signal is one  
3 of (i) the telephone number of the intended recipient of the first  
4 outgoing VOIP signal, and (ii) the extension number of the  
5 intended recipient of the first outgoing VOIP signal,

6 (b) the address component of the second outgoing VOIP signal is  
7 one of (i) the telephone number of the intended recipient of the  
8 second outgoing VOIP signal, and (ii) the extension number of  
9 the intended recipient of the second outgoing VOIP signal, and

10 (c) said server includes means for replacing the address component  
11 of the first outgoing VOIP signal and the address component of  
12 the second outgoing VOIP signal with, respectively, the internet  
13 address of the intended recipient of the first outgoing VOIP  
14 signal and the internet address of the intended recipient of the  
15 second outgoing VOIP signal.

1 3. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 1 wherein  
2 said server includes:

3 (a) a first data base of:

4 (1) addresses of intended recipients of the first outgoing  
5 VOIP signal, and

- 6 (2) addresses of intended recipients of the second outgoing  
7 VOIP signal,
- 8 (b) a second data base of:
- 9 (1) addresses of said VOIP telephone extensions of said first  
10 plurality of VOIP telephone extensions, and
- 11 (2) addresses of said VOIP telephone extensions of said  
12 second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions,
- 13 (c) means for accessing said first data base of addresses prior to:
- 14 (1) the first outgoing VOIP signal being conducted by said  
15 internet gateway to the internet, and
- 16 (2) the second outgoing VOIP signal being conducted by  
17 said internet gateway to the internet,
- 18 (d) means for accessing said second data base of addresses prior to
- 19 (1) the first incoming VOIP signal being conducted to said  
20 facility network switch, and
- 21 (2) the second incoming VOIP signal being conducted to said  
22 facility network switch,
- 23 (e) means for comparing:
- 24 (1) the address component of the first outgoing VOIP signal  
25 with the addresses in said first data base of addresses of  
26 intended recipients of the first outgoing VOIP signal,
- 27 (2) the address component of the second outgoing VOIP  
28 signal with the addresses in said first data base of  
29 addresses of intended recipients of the second outgoing  
30 VOIP signal,
- 31 (3) the address of the first incoming VOIP signal with the  
32 addresses in said second data base of addresses of said  
33 VOIP telephone extensions of said first plurality of VOIP  
34 telephone extensions, and

35 (4) the address of the second incoming VOIP signal with the  
36 addresses in said second data base of addresses of said  
37 VOIP telephone extensions of said second plurality of  
38 VOIP telephone extensions, and

39 (f) means for controlling said facility network switch to conduct:

40 (1) the first outgoing VOIP signal to said internet gateway  
41 when the address component of the first outgoing VOIP  
42 signal is the same as an address in said first data base  
43 of addresses of intended recipients of the first outgoing  
44 VOIP,

45 (2) the second outgoing VOIP signal said internet gateway  
46 when the address component of the second outgoing  
47 VOIP signal is the same as an address in said first data  
48 base of addresses of intended recipients of the second  
49 outgoing VOIP signal,

50 (3) the first incoming VOIP signal to said first user network  
51 switch when the address component of the first incoming  
52 VOIP signal is the same as the address in said second  
53 data base of said VOIP telephone extension of said first  
54 plurality of VOIP telephone extensions, and

55 (4) the second incoming VOIP signal to said second user  
56 network switch when the address component of the  
57 second incoming VOIP signal is the same as the address  
58 in said second data base of said VOIP telephone  
59 extension of said second plurality of VOIP telephone  
60 extensions.

1 4. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 3 wherein:

2 (a) said VOIP telephone extension of said first plurality of VOIP  
3 telephone extensions and said VOIP telephone extension of said  
4 second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions also develop  
5 outgoing PSTN signals for transmission via a public switched  
6 telephone network,

7 (b) said multi-user telephone system further includes a public  
8 switched telephone network gateway, connected to said facility  
9 network switch and adapted for connection to a public switched  
10 telephone network, through which:

11 (1) the outgoing PSTN signals are conducted from said  
12 facility network switch to said public switched telephone  
13 network,

14 (2) incoming PSTN signals from said public switched  
15 telephone network are conducted to said facility network  
16 switch,

17 (c) said server also includes:

18 (1) means for detecting the outgoing PSTN signals,

19 (2) means for controlling said facility network switch to  
20 conduct:

21 (i) an outgoing PSTN signal from said facility  
22 network switch to said public switched telephone  
23 network gateway when the outgoing PSTN signal  
24 is detected, and

25 (ii) an incoming PSTN signal from said public  
26 switched telephone network gateway to said  
27 facility network switch.

1 5. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 1 further  
2 including:

3 (a) at least one source of data signals connected to one of said  
4 VOIP telephone extensions, and

5 (b) at least one receiver of data signals connected to one of said  
6 VOIP telephone extensions.

1 6. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 4 wherein  
2 said server also includes means for maintaining a record of:

3 (a) the first incoming VOIP signal received from the internet,

- 4 (b) the second incoming VOIP signal received from the internet,  
5 (c) the first outgoing VOIP signal from said VOIP telephone  
6 extension of said first plurality of VOIP telephone extensions  
7 and  
8 (d) the second outgoing VOIP signal from said VOIP telephone  
9 extension of said second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions.
- 1 7. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 4:  
2 (a) wherein said server further includes means for developing an  
3 indication that an outgoing VOIP signal will not be conducted to  
4 the internet when the address of that outgoing VOIP signal is  
5 not confirmed by said server, and  
6 (b) said multi-user telephone system further includes means for  
7 conducting the indication to that VOIP telephone extension  
8 which developed the outgoing VOIP signal not being conducted  
9 to the internet.
- 1 8. A multi-user telephone system comprising:  
2 a first user telephone network including:  
3 (a) a first plurality of VOIP telephone extensions all having the  
4 same telephone number and each having an extension number  
5 different from the extension numbers of the other VOIP  
6 telephone extensions of said first plurality of VOIP telephone  
7 extensions, each said VOIP telephone extension of said first  
8 plurality of VOIP telephone extensions for:  
9 (1) developing a first outgoing VOIP signal for transmission  
10 via the internet and comprising:  
11 (i) an audio component digitized from audio  
12 frequency signals developed by said VOIP  
13 telephone extension of said first plurality of VOIP  
14 telephone extensions, and



- 15 (ii) an address component corresponding to the  
16 address of the intended recipient of the first  
17 outgoing VOIP signal, and
- 18 (2) converting to audio signals for broadcast by said VOIP  
19 telephone extension of said first plurality of VOIP  
20 telephone extensions a first incoming VOIP signal  
21 received from the internet and having an address  
22 corresponding to the address of said VOIP telephone  
23 extension of said first plurality of VOIP telephone  
24 extension, and
- 25 (b) a first user network switch to which each said VOIP telephone  
26 extension of said first plurality of VOIP telephone extensions is  
27 connected and through which:
- 28 (1) the first outgoing VOIP signal is conducted, and  
29 (2) the first incoming VOIP signal is conducted to said VOIP  
30 telephone extension of said first plurality of VOIP  
31 telephone extensions;
- 32 a second user telephone network including:
- 33 (a) a second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions all having the  
34 same telephone number and each having an extension number  
35 different from the extension numbers of the other VOIP  
36 telephone extensions of said second plurality of VOIP telephone  
37 extensions, each said VOIP telephone extension of said second  
38 plurality of VOIP telephone extensions for:
- 39 (1) developing a second outgoing VOIP signal for  
40 transmission via the internet and comprising:
- 41 (i) an audio component digitized from audio  
42 frequency signals developed by said VOIP  
43 telephone extension of said second plurality of  
44 VOIP telephone extensions, and

45 (ii) an address component corresponding to the  
46 address of the intended recipient of the second  
47 outgoing VOIP signal, and

48 (2) converting to audio signals for broadcast by said VOIP  
49 telephone extension of said second plurality of VOIP  
50 telephone extensions a second incoming VOIP signal  
51 received from the internet and having an address  
52 corresponding to the address of said VOIP telephone  
53 extension of said second plurality of VOIP telephone  
54 extensions, and

55 (b) a second user network switch to which each said VOIP  
56 telephone extension of said second plurality of VOIP telephone  
57 extensions is connected and through which:

58 (1) the second outgoing VOIP signal is conducted, and

59 (2) the second incoming VOIP signal received from the  
60 internet is conducted to said VOIP telephone extension  
61 of said second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions;

62 a facility network switch to which said first user network switch and  
63 said second user network switch are connected and through which:

64 (a) the first outgoing VOIP is conducted from said first user  
65 network switch,

66 (b) the first incoming VOIP signal received from the internet is  
67 conducted to said first user network switch,

68 (c) the second outgoing VOIP signal is conducted from said second  
69 user network switch, and

70 (d) the second incoming VOIP signal received from the internet is  
71 conducted to said second user network switch;

72 an internet gateway connected to said facility network switch and  
73 adapted for connection to the internet and through which:

74 (a) the first outgoing VOIP signal is conducted to the internet,

- 75 (b) the first incoming VOIP signal received from the internet is  
76 conducted to said facility network switch,
- 77 (c) the second outgoing VOIP signal is conducted to the internet,  
78 and
- 79 (d) the second incoming VOIP signal received from the internet is  
80 conducted to said facility network switch; and
- 81 a server programmed with:
- 82 (a) addresses of intended recipients of the first outgoing VOIP  
83 signal and addresses of intended recipients of the second  
84 outgoing VOIP signal, and
- 85 (b) addresses of said VOIP telephone extensions of said first  
86 plurality of VOIP telephone extensions and addresses of said  
87 VOIP telephone extensions of said second plurality of VOIP  
88 telephone extensions,
- 89 for:
- 90 (a) confirming the address of the intended recipient of the first  
91 outgoing VOIP signal as being an address programmed in said  
92 server,
- 93 (b) controlling said facility switching network to conduct said first  
94 outgoing VOIP signal to said internet gateway upon confirming  
95 the address of the intended recipient of the first outgoing VOIP  
96 signal as being an address programmed in said server,
- 97 (c) confirming the address of the intended recipient of the second  
98 outgoing VOIP signal as being an address programmed in said  
99 server,
- 100 (d) controlling said facility switching network to conduct said  
101 second outgoing VOIP signal to said internet gateway upon  
102 confirming the address of the intended recipient of the second  
103 outgoing VOIP signal as being an address programmed in said  
104 server,

- 105 (e) confirming the address of the first incoming VOIP signal as  
106 being an address programmed in said server,
- 107 (f) controlling said facility switching network to conduct the first  
108 incoming VOIP signal to said VOIP telephone extension of said  
109 first plurality of VOIP telephone extensions upon confirming the  
110 address of the first incoming VOIP signal as being an address  
111 programmed in said server,
- 112 (g) confirming the address of the second incoming VOIP signal as  
113 being an address programmed in said server, and
- 114 (h) controlling said facility switching network to conduct said  
115 second incoming VOIP signal to said VOIP telephone extension  
116 of said second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions upon  
117 confirming the address of the second incoming VOIP signal as  
118 being an address programmed in said server.

1 9. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 8 wherein  
2 said server includes:

- 3 (a) means for comparing:
- 4 (1) the address component of the first outgoing VOIP signal  
5 with the addresses programmed in said server of  
6 intended recipients of the first outgoing VOIP signal,
- 7 (2) the address component of the second outgoing VOIP  
8 signal with the addresses programmed in said server of  
9 intended recipients of the second outgoing VOIP signal,
- 10 (3) the address of the first incoming VOIP signal received  
11 from the internet with the addresses programmed in  
12 said server of said VOIP telephone extensions of said  
13 first plurality of VOIP telephone extensions, and
- 14 (4) the address of the second incoming VOIP signal received  
15 from the internet with the addresses programmed in  
16 said server of said VOIP telephone extensions of said  
17 second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions, and

- 18 (b) means for permitting:
- 19 (1) the first outgoing VOIP signal to be conducted to the
- 20 internet when the address component of the first
- 21 outgoing VOIP signal is the same as an address
- 22 programmed in said server of intended recipients of the
- 23 first outgoing VOIP signal,
- 24 (2) the second outgoing VOIP signal to be conducted to the
- 25 internet when the address component of the second
- 26 outgoing VOIP signal is the same as an address
- 27 programmed in said server of intended recipients of the
- 28 second outgoing VOIP signal,
- 29 (3) the first incoming VOIP signal received from the internet
- 30 to be conducted to said facility switching network when
- 31 the address component of the first incoming VOIP signal
- 32 is the same as an address programmed in said server of
- 33 the addresses of said VOIP telephone extensions of said
- 34 first plurality of VOIP telephone extensions, and
- 35 (4) the second incoming VOIP signal received from the
- 36 internet to be conducted to said facility switching
- 37 network when the address component of the second
- 38 incoming VOIP signal is the same as an address
- 39 programmed in said server of the addresses of said VOIP
- 40 telephone extensions of said second plurality of VOIP
- 41 telephone extensions.

- 1 10. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 9 wherein:
- 2 (a) said VOIP telephone extension of said first plurality of VOIP
- 3 telephone extensions and said VOIP telephone extension of said
- 4 second plurality of VOIP telephone extensions also develop
- 5 outgoing PSTN signals for transmission via a public switched
- 6 telephone network,
- 7 (b) said multi-user telephone system further includes a public
- 8 switched telephone network gateway, connected to said facility

9 network switch and adapted for connection to a public switched  
10 telephone network, through which:

11 (1) the outgoing PSTN signals are conducted from said  
12 facility network switch to said public switched telephone  
13 network,

14 (2) incoming PSTN signals from said public switched  
15 telephone network are conducted to said facility network  
16 switch,

17 (c) said server also includes:

18 (1) means for detecting the outgoing PSTN signals,

19 (2) means for controlling said facility network switch to  
20 conduct:

21 (i) an outgoing PSTN signal from said facility  
22 network switch to said public switched telephone  
23 network gateway when the outgoing PSTN signal  
24 is detected, and

25 (ii) an incoming PSTN signal from said public  
26 switched telephone network gateway to said  
27 facility network switch.

1 11. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 10 wherein  
2 said server also includes means for maintaining a record of all incoming VOIP signals,  
3 all incoming PSTN signals, all outgoing VOIP signals, and all outgoing PSTN signals.

1 12. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 11 further  
2 including:

3 (a) at least one source of data signals connected to one of said  
4 VOIP telephone extensions, and

5 (b) at least one receiver of data signals connected to one of said  
6 VOIP telephone extensions.

1                   13.    A multi-user telephone system according to claim 8 wherein at  
2   least one of said first user telephone network and said second user telephone  
3   network further includes:

4                   (a)    at least one source of data signals connected to one of said  
5                            VOIP telephone extensions, and

6                   (b)    at least one receiver of data signals connected to one of said  
7                            VOIP telephone extensions.

1                   14.    A multi-user telephone system according to claim 13:

2                   (a)    wherein said server further includes means for developing an  
3                            indication that an outgoing VOIP signal will not be conducted to  
4                            the internet when the address of that outgoing VOIP signal is  
5                            not confirmed by said server, and

6                   (b)    said multi-user telephone system further includes means for  
7                            conducting the indication to that VOIP telephone extension  
8                            which developed the outgoing VOIP signal not being conducted  
9                            to the internet.

1                   15.    A multi-user telephone system comprising:

2                           a plurality of user telephone networks, all in the same general location,  
3   and each having:

4                   (a)    a plurality of VOIP telephone extensions with all said VOIP  
5                            telephone extensions in the same user telephone network  
6                            having the same telephone number and each said VOIP  
7                            telephone extension in the same user telephone network having  
8                            an extension number different from the extension numbers of  
9                            the other VOIP telephone extensions of same user telephone  
10                           network, each said VOIP telephone extension for:

11                           (1)    developing outgoing VOIP signals for transmission via  
12                                    the internet with each of the outgoing VOIP signals  
13                                    having an audio component digitized from audio  
14                                    frequency signals developed by said VOIP telephone

15 extension and an address component corresponding to  
16 the address of the intended recipient of the outgoing  
17 VOIP signal, and

18 (2) converting incoming VOIP signals received from the  
19 internet to audio signals that are broadcast by said VOIP  
20 telephone extensions;

21 (b) a user network switch to which each said VOIP telephone  
22 extension of the same user telephone network is connected and  
23 through which:

24 (1) the outgoing VOIP signals are conducted from said VOIP  
25 telephone extensions, and

26 (2) the incoming VOIP signals received from the internet are  
27 conducted to said VOIP telephone extensions;

28 a facility network switch to which each said user network switch is  
29 connected and through which the outgoing VOIP signals are conducted from the user  
30 network switches and the incoming VOIP signals received from the internet are  
31 conducted to the user network switches;

32 an internet gateway connected to said facility network switch and  
33 adapted for connection to the internet for conducting (i) the outgoing VOIP signals  
34 from said facility network switch to the internet, and (ii) the incoming VOIP signals  
35 received from the internet to said facility network switch; and

36 a server programmed with addresses of intended recipients of the  
37 outgoing VOIP signals and the addresses of the VOIP telephone extensions in said  
38 user telephone networks for:

39 (a) confirming the addresses of the intended recipients of the  
40 outgoing VOIP signals as being addresses programmed in said  
41 server,

42 (b) controlling said facility network switch to conduct the outgoing  
43 VOIP signals to said internet gateway upon confirming the  
44 addresses of the intended recipients of the outgoing VOIP  
45 signals as being addresses programmed in the server,



- 46 (c) confirming the addresses of the incoming VOIP signals as being  
47 addresses programmed in said server, and
- 48 (d) controlling said facility network switch to conduct the incoming  
49 VOIP signals to said user network switches for passage to said  
50 VOIP telephone extensions upon confirming the addresses of  
51 the incoming VOIP signals as being addresses programmed in  
52 the server.
- 1 16. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 15 wherein  
2 said server includes:
- 3 (a) a first data base of addresses of intended recipients of the  
4 outgoing VOIP signals,
- 5 (b) a second data base of addresses of said VOIP telephone  
6 extensions,
- 7 (c) means for accessing said first data base of addresses prior to an  
8 outgoing VOIP signal being conducted by said internet gateway  
9 to the internet,
- 10 (d) means for accessing said second data base of addresses prior to  
11 an incoming VOIP signal being conducted to said facility  
12 switching network,
- 13 (e) means for comparing:
- 14 (1) the address components of the outgoing VOIP signals  
15 with the addresses in said first data base of addresses of  
16 intended recipients of the outgoing VOIP signals,
- 17 (2) the address components of the incoming VOIP signals  
18 with the addresses in said second data base of addresses  
19 of said VOIP telephone extensions, and
- 20 (f) means for controlling said facility network switch to conduct:
- 21 (1) the outgoing VOIP signals to said internet gateway when  
22 the address components of the outgoing VOIP signals  
23 are the same as an address in said first data base of

24 addresses of intended recipients of the outgoing VOIP  
25 signals, and

26 (2) the incoming VOIP signals to said user network switches  
27 when the address components of the incoming VOIP  
28 signals are the same as an address in said second data  
29 base of addresses of said VOIP telephone extensions.

1 17. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 16 wherein:

2 (a) said VOIP telephone extensions also develop outgoing PSTN  
3 signals for transmission via a public switched telephone  
4 network,

5 (b) said multi-user telephone system further includes a public  
6 switched telephone network gateway, connected to said facility  
7 network switch and adapted for connection to a public switched  
8 telephone network, through which:

9 (1) the outgoing PSTN signals are conducted from said  
10 facility network switch to said public switched telephone  
11 network,

12 (2) incoming PSTN signals from said public switched  
13 telephone network are conducted to said facility network  
14 switch,

15 (c) said server also includes:

16 (1) means for detecting the outgoing PSTN signals,

17 (2) means for controlling said facility network switch to  
18 conduct:

19 (i) outgoing PSTN signals from said facility network  
20 switch to said public switched telephone network  
21 gateway when the outgoing PSTN signals are  
22 detected, and

23 (ii) incoming PSTN signals from said public switched  
24 telephone network gateway to said facility  
25 network switch.

1 18. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 17 wherein  
2 said server also includes means for maintaining a record of all incoming VOIP signals,  
3 all incoming PSTN signals, all outgoing VOIP signals, and all outgoing PSTN signals.

1 19. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 18 further  
2 including:

3 (a) at least one source of data signals connected to one of said  
4 VOIP telephone extensions, and

5 (b) at least one receiver of data signals connected to one of said  
6 VOIP telephone extensions.

1 20. A multi-user telephone system according to claim 18:

2 (a) wherein said server further includes means for developing an  
3 indication that an outgoing VOIP signal will not be conducted to  
4 the internet when the address of that outgoing VOIP signal is  
5 not confirmed by said server, and

6 (b) said multi-user telephone system further includes means for  
7 conducting the indication to that VOIP telephone extension  
8 which developed the outgoing VOIP signal not being conducted  
9 to the internet.